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SS:7
Ser 1

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From: Commander, Naval Ship Engineering Center
To: Commander, Submarine Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet

Subj: Experimental use of teflon and braided asbestos teflon packing
in SS 470 hydraulic components and valves

Ref: (a) CO, USS CUTLASS (SS 470) 1tr SS470/10K/da 9210 Ser 358
of 27 Sep 1970
(b) Specification, MIL-P-24377 (SHIPS), 14 Feb 1969 Packing
material, Asbestos, Braided, Impregnated with TFE
(Polytetrafluoroethylene), surface lubricated

1. Reference (a) reported on problems resulting from the evaluation installation of teflon packing in USS CUTLASS' hydraulic components and valves.
2. The report indicated excessive leakage due to extrusion of the teflon packing. The report also indicated that packing in accordance with reference (b) provided better service, but that many valves and components still leaked excessively.
3. Information available indicates that the most desirable packing for use in the subject equipments would be that supplied in accordance with reference (b). Packing furnished under this specification includes installation instructions which should be followed to achieve satisfactory service. However, due to shafts, valve stems, glands or other parts being scored from length of service or repeated overhauls, there may be some cases where tightness cannot be maintained.
4. In extreme circumstances as cited above, where leakage cannot be controlled by normal procedures and in the interest of economy, authorization is granted to employ graphite type packing, as requested by reference (a) to prevent excessive loss of hydraulic fluid.

Copy to:
NAVSHIPS/NSCOM 425TM (w/NAVSHIPS Route sheet ref (a) J.O. # 2514501)
CINCPAC/NM
USS CUTLASS
CO (W624)
" "

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P: D. J. [unclear]
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